

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Pest Detection and Management Programs - Program Update

Program: *Phytophthora ramorum* Date: January 10, 2005

The APHIS emergency federal order that regulates the interstate movement of plants from nurseries in California, Oregon and Washington to prevent the spread of *Phytophthora ramorum*, or sudden oak death, to noninfested areas of the United States that was signed on December 21, 2004 is effective today, January 10, 2005.

The order is available at the APHIS *P. ramorum* web site along with updated lists of regulated plants and quarantined areas of California and Oregon. Also available are links to the California, Oregon and Washington state departments of agriculture web sites where information on certified host nurseries and inspected non-host nurseries that may ship nursery stock interstate is posted. We will be posting a list of frequently asked questions to help those applying or affected by the order to better understand how it is implemented.

Under the new federal order, California, Oregon and Washington nursery owners who ship *P. ramorum* host and associated host plants interstate must have their nursery stock inspected, sampled and tested by state officials before those plants can be transported across state lines. In addition, nurseries that ship non-host plants interstate must undergo a visual inspection to ensure those plants are not exhibiting *P. ramorum* symptoms before interstate shipment.

The new measures address the discovery of the *P. ramorum* pathogen in nurseries in Washington, and in nurseries outside of the already established quarantined areas in California and Oregon. This action also puts new restrictions on nurseries in the quarantined areas that ship non-host nursery stock interstate.

The new order was crafted with extensive input from and consultation with our state cooperators and industry.

The April 22 emergency order that restricted the interstate movement of several varieties of *P. ramorum* host and associated plants from California nurseries has been superseded by the December 21 order.

There has been no change in the total number of confirmed positive sites from the trace forward, national, and other survey, it remains at 176 in 22 States. The total includes three residential finds; two in Georgia and one in South Carolina; there was one environs find in New York. The breakdown per State is: AL (3), AR (1), AZ (1), CA (55), CO (1), CT (3), FL (6), GA (16), LA (5), MD (3), NC (9), NJ (1), NM (1), NY (1), OK (1), OR (24), PA (1), SC (4), TN (2), TX (11), VA (2) and WA (25).